

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12
NEA-10 PM-04 DHA-02 ACDA-07 OIC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
/106 W

-----231835Z 009519 /50

O 231810Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7595
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK 4892

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4029

DOD ALSO PASS TO AF/JA, NAVY JAG, DAJA-IA, DCPA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ICRC PARM PFOR
SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

1. CORRIDOR DISCUSSION HAVE INDICATED THAT IT WILL BE MOST
DIFFICULT TO RREVENT INCLUSION IN PROTOCOL I OF ARTICLE 86 BIS
(ON ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW WEAPONS). TO IMPROVE OUR
CHANCES OF DEFEATING THE ARTICLE, WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE A
COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO CONTINUE WORK ON THIS SUBJECT IN THE
CONTEXT OF HUMANITARIAN LAW IN THE FUTURE IN AN APPROPRIATE FORUM
TO BE AGREED UPON BY ALL GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED DURING THE NEXT
FEW MONTHS. IF WE CAN GIVE SUCH A COMMITMENT, WE WILL BE ABLE TO
GAIN VOTES AND PROBABLY GAIN SEVERAL ABSTENTIONS.

2. DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE IN OVERALL USG INTEREST
TO MAKE SUCH A COMMITMENT. INEVITABLY WE SHALL FIND THAT NEGOTIA-
TIONS ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS ISSUES CANNOT BE DROPPED AT THIS
POINT. BOTH OUR ALLIES AND SOVIETS SHARE THIS JUDGMENT. THERE-
FORE, IT COSTS US NOTHING TO EXPRESS A COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE
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IN NEGOTIATIONS IN SOME REASONABLE FORUM (UNSPECIFIED) TO WHICH
OUR AGREEMENT WILL BE REQUIRED. WE NOTE THAT OUR POSITION PAPER
ON WEAPONS FOR THIS CONFERENCE CLEARLY ENVISIONS THAT THE
NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN SOME FASHION.

3. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, DELEGATION WILL TELL INTERESTED
DELEGATIONS THAT USG WILL BE PREPARED TO CONTINUE WORK ON CON-

VENTIONAL WEAPONS ISSUES IN AN ACCEPTABLE FORUM TO BE DETERMINED
DURING NEXT SIX MONTHS. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE VOTE ON 86 BIS BY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, ANY INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE SENT BY COB MAY 24.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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